

United States Attorney Southern District of Georgia

Post Office Box 8970 Savannah, GA 31412 (912) 652-4422 / FAX (912) 652-4805 100 Bull Street Savannah, GA 31401

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Edmund A. Booth, Jr. First Assistant U.S. Attornev

(706) 724-0517

Joseph D. Newman, Criminal Chief

(912) 652-4422

DOCTOR, THREE OTHERS, CHARGED WITH HEALTH CARE FRAUD

SAVANNAH, GA: Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced that the federal grand jury sitting in Savannah has returned an indictment against a doctor and three others for health care fraud in connection with a scheme to defraud Medicare and Georgia Medicaid by submitting false billings for alleged physical therapy services at a World Gym in Jesup, Georgia.

Dr. Randy S. Lentz and Rebecca J. Lentz of Jesup, Georgia, and Scott T. Bowlin and Kim A. Bowlin, formerly of Richmond Hill, Georgia, were charged in a 106-count indictment with Conspiracy in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371 and Health Care Fraud in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1347. The indictment charges that, between August 2004 and April 2005, the defendants conspired with each other in a scheme to defraud Medicare and Georgia Medicaid. Specifically, the indictment alleges that Randy S. Lentz, a medical doctor and owner of the World Gym in Jesup, Georgia, conspired with Rebecca J. Lentz, Scott T. Bowlin, a physical therapist, and Kim A. Bowlin to bill for fraudulent physical therapy services which were allegedly provided to elderly Medicare and Georgia Medicaid patients at the World Gym. Initial appearances for these defendants have not yet been set by the court.

Wood emphasized that an indictment is only an accusation and is not evidence of guilt.

The defendants are entitled to a fair trial, during which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Wood praised the joint efforts of Special Agent David Westall of the Department of Health and Human Services and Special Agent Mark A. Alig of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) which led to the indictment. The Georgia Medicaid Fraud Control Unit also assisted with the investigation.

The government is represented by Assistant United States Attorneys Brian F. McEvoy and James D. Durham.

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